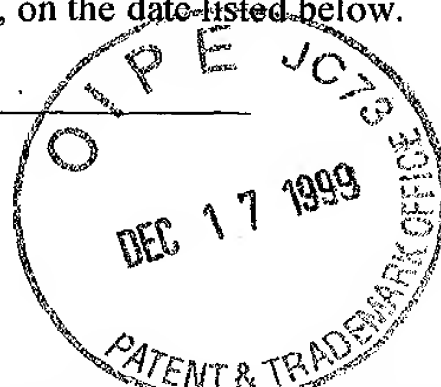


#3/a

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date listed below.

Elizabeth Miller
Elizabeth Miller



12/10/99
Date

ATTY DOCKET No. 10981620-1

chk
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Glenda C. Delenstarr et al. Group Art Unit: 1655.
Serial No.: 09/398,399 Examiner: Unassigned ~~1645~~ Simon
Filed: 09/17/99
Title: Techniques for Assessing Nonspecific Binding of Nucleic Acids
to Surfaces

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In the above-identified application, please amend the specification by inserting the enclosed 9 page sequence listing into the specification before the claims. Please renumber the pages containing the claims to be page numbers 61-68.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon M. Stewart
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 30,528
Tel: (650)236-2386

December 10, 1999
IP Administration
Agilent Technologies
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